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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/923,362	08/08/2001	Glenn Raymond McClendon III	1330.1103	8925
21171	7590	05/18/2006	EXAMINER	
STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005			FISCHEITTI, JOSEPH A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3627	

DATE MAILED: 05/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/923,362

Applicant(s)

MCLENDON

Examiner

Joseph A. Fischetti

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 23,24 and 26-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 28-31 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 23,24,26,27 and 32-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election without traverse of claims 23-24,26-27,32-38 in the reply filed on 3/2/06 is acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 23, 24, 26, 27, 32-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Marks in view of Heinemann et al 6882986.

Re claims 23/27 Marks discloses a method/system for entering information on accounting lines by a person using a computer (col. 4, lines 15-18, col.6,lns 15-60 TT1-TT11), the information entered on each accounting line relating to accounting activities and including an amount(TT2, col. 6,lns 15-60); processing the information entered on the accounting lines (col. 4, lines 15-18) by a computer to create posting lines (temp file records), each posting line including a debit, a credit or a debit/credit pair (see TT4) relating to a respective amount included in information entered on a respective accounting line; storing the created posting lines in an electronic catalog by a computer (file 28 fig. 1); marking respective posting lines stored in the catalog by a person via a

computer (col. 11 lines 4-15 - It is noted that Marks automatically checks for posting lines (temp. file records) that are ready to post to the journal by verifying the debits and credits balance) selecting posting lines stored in the catalog (file 28) by a computer in accordance with said marking ; posting the selected posting lines to a journal by a computer, to thereby create journal entries(permanent transaction journal 3 0); and posting the journal entries (30) to a ledger (control general ledger 22) by a computer.

However, Marks fails to disclose viewing posting lines stored in the catalog by a person via a computer, making corrections to the viewed posting lines via a computer by the person viewing the posting lines, and storing the corrected posting lines in the catalog by a computer: and marking so that the catalog thereby includes stored posting lines which are marked by the person and stored posting lines which are not marked by the person.

But, Heinemann et al. disclose at col. 9 lines 49 – 51 disclose viewing posting lines (e.g invoices have plural lines which are each reviewed) and corrections can be made by the view (part of the evaluation process for approval) corrected lines (invoices) are marked using an additional two digit code col. 7 lines 52 et seq. which is stored along with codes not having such indicia if the invoice lines are passed without error. It would be obvious to modify the method/system of Marks with the manual correction feature and the marked /not marked indicia of Heinemann the motivation being the human correction factor and the ability to see what posting were subject to change.

Re claim 24. It is noted that Marks automatically checks for posting lines (temp. file records) that are ready to post to the journal by verifying the debits and credits balance. Once the computer verifies that the debits and credits are balanced, then posting lines (temp. file records) are posted. However, Marks fails to disclose a person marking a posting line to indicate if it is ready to post. Marks notes in the Background section of his disclosure that accounting recording keeping can be performed manually (see columns 1 and 2). Mark's claimed system utilizes a computer to automate certain aspects of the recording keeping process while leaving other aspects (such as inputting transaction data; see column 4, lines 15-18) to a person for manual processing. The Examiner concludes that it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for a person to manually mark the posting lines to indicate they are ready to be posted by manually checking that the debits and credits balance in place of the automatic system, because manual checking, while slower, may be used to spot accounting errors not originally programmed into the computer system.

Re claim 26: marks respective posting lines to indicate whether the respective posting lines are ready to post is met by the additional code placed along side the ID as discussed above.

Re claims 32,36: The system in Marks is a continuing posting apparatus/process.

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Re claim 33: updating a flag corresponding to each marked posting line, the updated flag thereby indicate that the posting line was marked(read a s the resubmitted invoice number with the additional two digits indicating posting line was marked, the indicia of the , wherein said selecting selects posting lines having updated flags indicating that the post lines were marked (occurs when resubmitted invoice is corrected to overcome the error for which it was rejected.

Re claim 34: whether posting are to actual disbursements or a budget file is a matter of design choice governed by application not invention.

Re claim 35: Official Notice is taken of the old practice of two journal entries in account practice.

Re claim 37: In both Marks and Heinemann et al. corrections are made to the viewed posting lines not requiring the user to refer back to accounting lines.

Re claim 38: Official Notice is taken of the old accounting practice of marking respective posted posting lines in the catalog after being posted as being posted by there very existence in the catalog .


Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Joseph A.

Fischetti at telephone number 571 272 6780.

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Joseph A. Fischetti
Primary Examiner
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**JOSEPH A. FISCHETTI
PRIMARY EXAMINER**